In order to deal with hostage situations, the Government have an institutionalized mechanism in place. There is a Crisis Management Group, which is set up immediately and is tasked with the constant monitoring and handling of the situation in close consultation with concerned agencies, our diplomatic missions abroad and with foreign Governments. The Cabinet Secretary also holds a parallel set of inter-ministerial meetings, as required, to take appropriate decision. The Cabinet Committee on Political Affairs may also meet, as necessary, to review the situation and take appropriate decisions. This mechanism remains inforce until the crisis ends.

Development of Road Transport in Tibet by China

356. SHRI EKANATH K. THAKUR:
SHRI MANOJ BHATTACHARYA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that China nearly doubled the length of its road transport network in Tibet to nearly 40,000 km. over the last decade;

(b) if so, whether it is a fact that the state of infrastructure in India along the border is awful and it is the result of Government's policy of not developing connectivity along the frontiers; and

(c) the action proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS: (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Government attaches importance to development of infrastructure in India's border areas. Our infrastructure development plans in the border areas are in place and the same is reviewed from time to time. While certain border roads are already under construction, others are in planning stage.